



California Recovery Task Force

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Gov. Schwarzenegger Issues Statement After Release of Requirements for Local Education Agencies to Participate in Race to the Top

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today issued the following statement after State Superintendent Jack O'Connell and Education Secretary Glen Thomas announced requirements for local education agencies (LEAs) that want to voluntarily participate in Race to the Top. State education officials wanted to provide local education agencies the requirements along with the legislation necessary to make California highly competitive in Race to the Top, but were unable to do so given the Assembly has failed to act on real Race to the Top reforms to date.

"After calling a special session over four months ago, California's children are still waiting for the Assembly to pass real reforms for our schools – reforms that empower parents to be more involved in their child's education, reforms that don't inhibit charter schools with layers of failed bureaucracy, reforms that will make California highly competitive for hundreds of millions of dollars for education.

"The legislature needs to pass meaningful Race to the Top legislation as soon as possible. As I've said before this is not a race to the status quo, this is a Race to the Top – and California's children deserve no less."

In addition to prompting statewide legislative education reforms required for states to compete, the Obama Administration's guidelines call on LEAs to voluntarily partner with the state through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to implement reforms that improve student outcomes.

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